

## Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSCE-00  
SSO-00 INRE-00 MCT-01 DHA-02 AID-05 CCO-00 PM-04  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 SP-02 OC-06 OPR-02 PA-01  
USSS-00 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01 SS-15 SY-05  
SCS-03 FBO-02 /101 R

DRAFTED BY EWG:JSBLODGETT:MN  
APPROVED BY EWG:JSBLODGETT  
S/S-O:SSTEINER

-----250406Z 103579 /20

O 250338Z APR 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY SANA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY  
USIA PRIORITY  
SECDEF PRIORITY  
CSA PRIORITY  
CSAF PRIORITY  
CNO PRIORITY  
CMC PRIORITY  
CINCEUR PRIORITY  
CINCPAC PRIORITY  
CINCREC PRIORITY  
CINCLANT PRIORITY  
CINCMAC PRIORITY  
DIRNSA PRIORITY  
DCA PRIORITY

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WHCA PRIORITY  
CINCPACFLT PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ET, US

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN SITREP NO. 3, APRIL 24, 1800 (EDT)

1. AT 1740 ASMARA TIME (1040 HOURS EDT) AND WITH ONLY TEN MINUTES PRIOR WARNING, THE ETHIOPIAN MILITARY FORCIBLY OCCUPIED OUR COMMUNICATIONS SITE AT KAGNEW STATION. OUR PERSONNEL WERE ESCORTED OUT. THEY SUBSEQUENTLY REPORTED THAT ALL HIGHLY SENSITIVE CRYPTOGRAPHIC MATERIAL WAS DESTROYED. ALL US PERSONNEL ARE SAFE AND THE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT APPARENTLY IS BEING GUARDED BY ETHIOPIAN TROOPS, (THE VOICE KEY WAS LEFT OPEN BY THE DEPARTING COMMUNICATORS BUT NSA REPORTS THAT NO CONVERSATIONS HAVE YET BEEN RECORDED). OUR CHARGE IN ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATELY EMPHASIZED TO THE ETHIOPIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY THE NEED TO AVOID COMPROMISE OF THE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND WE HAVE PREPARED A WRITTEN PROTEST. (SIMILAR EQUIPMENT WAS LOST IN VIETNAM).

IF ASKED, WE WILL TELL THE PRESS THAT "WE ARE STILL AWAITING A REPORT ON DISPOSITION OF EQUIPMENT".

2. STATUS OF AIRLIFT. AS OF 1800 EDT APRIL 24, 1977  
PLANNED AIRLIFT FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF PERSONNEL FROM  
ETHIOPIA IS AS FOLLOWS:

-- MAC C-141 SCHEDULED FLIGHT ENROUTE TO ADDIS ABABA,  
APRIL 25, RETURN ATHENS, 94 SEATS AVAILABLE. THIS FLIGHT  
TO BE USED AT DISCRETION OF CHARGE FOR MOVEMENT OF  
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PERSONNEL WHO ARE READY TO LEAVE.

-- MAC HAS CONTRACT FOR CHARTER AIRCRAFT (DC-8) FOR  
ARRIVAL AT ADDIS ABABA ON APRIL 27, 1977 TO REMOVE RE-  
MAINING PERSONNEL FROM ADDIS ABABA, APPROXIMATELY 210  
SEATS AVAILABLE.

--USIS PERSONNEL ARE SCHEDULED TO DEPART ADDIS VIA  
REGULAR COMMERCIAL AIR AS SPACE IS AVAILABLE. THESE  
PERSONNEL WILL UTILIZE MAC CHARTER IF PRIOR RESERVATIONS  
ARE UNOBTAINABLE.

--CHARGE WAS AUTHORIZED TO INFORM THE ETHIOPIAN PRO-  
VISIONAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT (EPMG) THAT WE PLAN TO  
SCHEDULE MILITARY TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT TO ARRIVE AT ASMARA  
ONE PER DAY ON APRIL 25, 26, AND 27. THESE AIRCRAFT,  
TO WITHDRAW PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT FROM KAGNEW AND THE  
CONSULATE GENERAL, WOULD DEPART THE SAME DAY AS ARRIVAL  
AND RETURN TO ATHENS.

3. OUR CHARGE MET WITH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS' AMERICAN AFFAIRS OFFICER ON THE MORNING OF APRIL 24 TO REQUEST AN EXTENSION OF THE FOUR DAY TIME LIMIT AND TO SEEK ASSURANCES FOR THE SAFETY OF US CITIZENS AND PROPERTY. OUR CHARGE WAS ASSURED THAT THE EPMG: 1) WANTED AN ORDERLY US WITHDRAWAL; 2) WOULD CONTINUE TO TAKE NECESSARY MEASURES TO ENSURE THE SECURITY OF PERSONNEL; AND 3) WERE WILLING TO CONSIDER EXTRA TIME FOR DEPARTURE ("TIME WILL BE NO PROBLEM"), BUT DID NOT SAY HOW MUCH TIME. WITH REGARD TO BOTH ADDIS AND ASMARA, THE CHARGE RAISED THE ISSUES OF IMMEDIATE OVERFLIGHT CLEARANCES, REMOVAL OF EQUIPMENT, THE NEED FOR AN EPMG LIAISON OFFICER TO HELP WITH COORDINATION OF US WITHDRAWAL PLANS, CONTINUED ACCESS TO US INSTALLATIONS, AND CONTINUED SECURITY OF US PERSONNEL AND THEIR PROPERTY. THE ETHIOPIAN OFFICIAL AGREED TO MENTION THESE QUESTIONS TO HIGHER

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AUTHORITY AND INDICATED THAT HE WILL RELAY THE CHARGE'S REQUEST FOR A MEETING WITH THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO DISCUSS REASONS FOR THE EXPULSION AS WELL AS THE FUTURE OF US-ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS.

4. AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE CONVENED A ONE HOUR MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP AT 1:00 P.M. THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND UNDERSECRETARY HABIB ATTENDED. AMONG THE DECISIONS MADE (AND NOT REPORTED ELSEWHERE) WERE:

1) A STRONG WRITTEN PROTEST WILL BE MADE TO THE EPMG ON THE KAGNEW TAKEOVER, TO FOLLOW UP THE ORAL PROTEST ALREADY MADE;

2) THE CONSULATE GENERAL AT ASMARA WILL BE INSTRUCTED TO IMPLEMENT THEIR PLANNED RECORD AND EQUIPMENT DESTRUCTION PLAN TOMORROW MORNING. DESTRUCTION OF SUBSTANTIVE FILES IN ASMARA HAS BEGUN.

3) AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLE WILL CONTACT APPROPRIATE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, AS WELL AS THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE AND SENATOR BYRD, TO INFORM THEM OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS.

5. THE EMBASSY IN ADDIS HAS INFORMED THE EPMG THAT CONTRACT PERSONNEL (WESTINGHOUSE AND NORTHROP) WOULD BE EVACUATED WITH MAAG PERSONNEL. ALTHOUGH THESE EMPLOYEES ARE UNDER FMS CONTRACT, AND ARE NOT MAP OR MAAG EMPLOYEES, THE EPMG DID NOT DEMUR ON THIS POINT.

6. AT 1930 HOURS ASMARA TIME, THE ACTING PRINCIPAL OFFICER REPORTED THAT THE ATMOSPHERE HAD TURNED

"DISTINCTLY SOUR" DURING THE COURSE OF APRIL 24. THE  
ETHIOPIAN HARDLINERS NAMED TO PARTICIPATE ON THE JOINT  
COMMISSION CONCERNING THE KAGNEW CLOSURE APPEARED TO BE  
DOMINANT AND HAD PLACED RESTRICTIONS ON THE MOVEMENT OF  
KAGNEW PERSONNEL. (A LATER CABLE, HOWEVER, REPORTED  
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THAT THE KAGNEW OFFICER-IN-CHARGE HAD RECEIVED WORD  
THROUGH ETHIOPIAN MILITARY CONTACTS THAT THE RESTRICTIONS  
PROBABLY WOULD BE REMOVED APRIL 25). THE ACTING  
PRINCIPAL OFFICER AND THE KAGNEW OFFICER-IN-CHARGE WILL  
MEET WITH MEMBERS OF THE JOINT COMMISSION AT 8:30 A.M.  
ASMARA TIME TO NEGOTIATE THE DISPOSAL OF RESIDUAL  
KAGNEW EQUIPMENT.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, COMMUNICATIONS SECURITY, CRYPTOGRAPHIC DEVICES, MILITARY BASE CLOSINGS, CONSULATE CLOSING, EVACUATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**DecapTION Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** 200202525  
**Disposition Comment:** RECORDING OF CLASSIFICATION/RECLASSIFICATION ACTION IN SAS (STATE ARCHIVING SYSTEM) BY THE DESIGNATED AUTHORITY FOR THIS ACTION, WHO HAS APPROVED RECLASSIFICATION AND OR EXTENSION ACTION ON THIS DOCUMENT.  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ETHIOPIAN SITREP NO. 3, APRIL 24, 1800 (EDT)  
**TAGS:** PFOR, AEMR, PDIP, ET, US  
**To:** AF POSTS ATHENS MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
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